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Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Western Oregon—Cloudy with possibly rain.

"CHAUNCEY" WAS MIXED!

Chauncey Thomas, the writer in the October "Success," who was writing "solely for the general public" when he indited his Seattle-inspired article under the caption "Our Own Northwest," must have had a homogeneous public in mind, one that would not rush after confirmatory statistics and tables of distances and other admittedly correct standards, when it read his arch-absurdity couched in the following paragraph, wherein he placates Portland and quietly damns the rest of the lower Columbia Valley, to-wit:

"Yet Portland has one thing in its favor—and mark this well—that exceeds all other harbors on the Pacific Coast; it is the nearest to, in fact right at, the mouth of the one, great, natural, water-level haul across the continent. For small vessels—20-foot now, 30-foot in the future—with cargoes bound between many points on the far Pacific and Chicago and other inland points, Portland—or the mouth of the Columbia such as Kalama, Vancouver, or Astoria—is and always will be the shortest, quickest, and cheapest route."

Portland, the metropolis of Oregon; the commercial center of an immense section of "Our Own Northwest"; one of the richest, most important rail and river transportation cities in the northwest, is NOT nearest to, nor right at "the mouth of the one, great, water-level land haul across the continent"; it is 112 miles from the mouth of that "land haul," which said "mouth is" 12 miles to the westward of this city of Astoria, and just six miles eastward from the deep blue "offing" waters of the Pacific Ocean.

We would call his attention to the fact that his "20-foot now" vessels ascend the Columbia river (AND THE WILLAMETTE RIVER) TO PORTLAND, with 26 feet of laden hulls between the water line and the bottom of their keels, and that their cargoes come, and go, between the mouth of the Columbia river and all the known ports of commerce on the face of the earth.

And we desire "Chauncey" to know (and to remember) that "Portland—or the mouth of the Columbia such as Kalama (meaning, no doubt, Kalama, Vancouver, or Astoria)—is, and always will be the shortest, quickest and cheapest route," is a confusion of terms that may pass muster with one of his especially "general public," but not with the informed reader who possesses a scintilla of geographical knowledge; for Portland is not at the mouth of the Columbia, but 112 miles east and south of it, and 12 miles still from the mouth of the Willamette river; that Kalama is 60 miles east of the Columbia's mouth; that Vancouver is nearly 100 miles from it; AND THAT ASTORIA IS THE PORT AT THE MOUTH OF THE COLUMBIA, AND THE NORTH COAST TERMINAL PORT OF THE HILL AND HARRIMAN RAILWAY AND STEAMSHIP SYSTEMS, AND BUT TWELVE SHORT MILES FROM THE COLUMBIA RIVER BAR AND MOUTH, and the ultimate terminus of his honestly-styled "one, great, natural, water-level land haul across the continent;" and this despite his ridiculous (but, no doubt, properly-prompted), theory of diverting the traffic of that haul, from a point 60 to 80 miles from this perfect, and legitimate terminus, and sending over a mountain range into Seattle, or Tacoma.

THE CLATSOP OIL FIELD.

The presence, and very apparent interest, of Mr. C. N. Sherman, the oil expert of Illinois, in this city, where he is prosecuting quiet and intelligent inquiry into the probabilities of oil and

gas in paying quantities hereabout, with the avowed purpose of exploiting the product if it shall manifest tangible existence, is a good thing for Clatsop, provided Clatsop really possesses these sources of supply; and the fact that he has approached the proposition through the Astoria Chamber of Commerce and committed that body to the primal duty of looking up his standing and career in the East, lends conspicuous and satisfactory color to whatever propositions he may make in the premises.

Having satisfied himself that he is justified in an effort to develop this particular territory, it becomes essential that he acquire certain leaseholds in, and abutting upon, the district to be tried-out for oil and gas, and he will at once enter upon this phase of the work. All farmers and other owners of property in the outlying sections of Clatsop will be asked to give him leases on their acreage, upon fixed terms of royalty, and once the leases are granted, he will be in a position to invoke capital for the initial cost of drilling, always the potential and expensive pre-requisite in a venture of this sort.

The leases are of a nature involving nothing, and no one, to any further extent than the mere right to enter upon the property for the sole purpose of boring for oil or gas, and in the event of success, the property-owner is the richer for the discovery and the royalty; or in the case of a futile search, none the worse off for the attempt that has been made. The proposition carries the weight of advantage to the lessor without any loss, or interference with such other uses and processes as he may desire to subject his property to in the meantime.

It is needless to say, of course, that the determination of oil or gas in commercial quantities and qualities in Clatsop county, will give an impetus of tremendous proportions to the industrial life of this whole section, and there can be no one who will willfully disparage or defeat so desirable an end.

The confirmation that a single flowing well will give to this new and untried venture will compensate 10,000 fold for the meagre privilege Mr. Sherman is about to ask at the hands of our people. Everybody wishes him the largest success imaginable, because the last human in the county must, of necessity, share handsomely in that success which must, for all time, be prolific of a myriad other successes.

AT THE CHURCHES TODAY.

First Evangelical Lutheran.
Sunday school at the church in Uppertown and at the German Luth. at 9:30. Miss Alema Nyland and Mrs. A. Young, Superintendents.

Morning service at 10:45 in Swedish. Evening service in English at 7:30. Theme for sermon, "That Good Thing."

This service will be held in the German Luth. Church. It is our intention to hold English service in the German Luth. Church the last Sunday evening of each month. The delegates to the Columbia Center Luther League convention will also report at the evening service on Sunday.

All are cordially invited to attend the above services.

First M. E. Church.

The sermon themes for Sunday will be as follows: at 11:00 a.m. "An Enlarged Vision"—Psa. 119:18. At 7:30 p.m. "Are All Going to Heaven?"—Luke 13:23. Other services: Class Meeting at 10:15 a.m., Sunday School at 12:15 p.m., Epworth League at 6:30 p.m. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend. Strangers will find a welcome. Christians whose Church is not represented here are invited to work with us. We are here to be good, not to build up the Methodist Church at the expense of some other Church.

Rev. C. C. Rarick, Pastor...

Norwegian M. E.

Services will be held at 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. Scandinavians are cordially invited to worship with us. O. T. Field, pastor.

Holy Innocents' Chapel.

Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity. Morning and evening services, 10 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.; Sunday school, 11 a. m.

First Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran.

Services as follows: Morning, 10:45; evening, 7:30; Sunday school, 9:30 a. m. Theo. P. Neste, pastor.

Presbyterian.

Morning worship, 11 o'clock, "A Verified Faith." Sunday school, 12:15; Y. P. S. C. E., 6:30; evening worship, 7:30, subject, "Not seen, yet loved." All are invited. Wm. S. Gilbert, pastor.

Christian Science.

Services at 634 Grand avenue, Sunday at 10 a. m., subject: "Everlasting Punishment." All are invited.

First Baptist.

Morning service at 11 o'clock. Rev. E. W. Owen, father of the pastor will officiate. There will be no evening service. Sunday school and B. Y. P. U. at the usual hours.

HORSE LOSES; DROPS DEAD.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Oct. 26.—While the horses were going around for the last time in the Annual Champion Steeplechase at Belmont Park yesterday afternoon, a spectator in the grand stand who was shouting for Mr. McCann, the horse that finished second, to run faster and win a bet for him, suddenly fell from the chair he was standing on.

Several persons tried to lift the man, but he was unconscious, and when a physician examined him declared that he was dead, apoplexy being given as the cause.

From cards and letters in the man's pockets it was learned that he was Nicholas Nady, of 10 East Seventeenth street, Manhattan.

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To Miss it means to loose the best opportunity of the season.
See Window Display